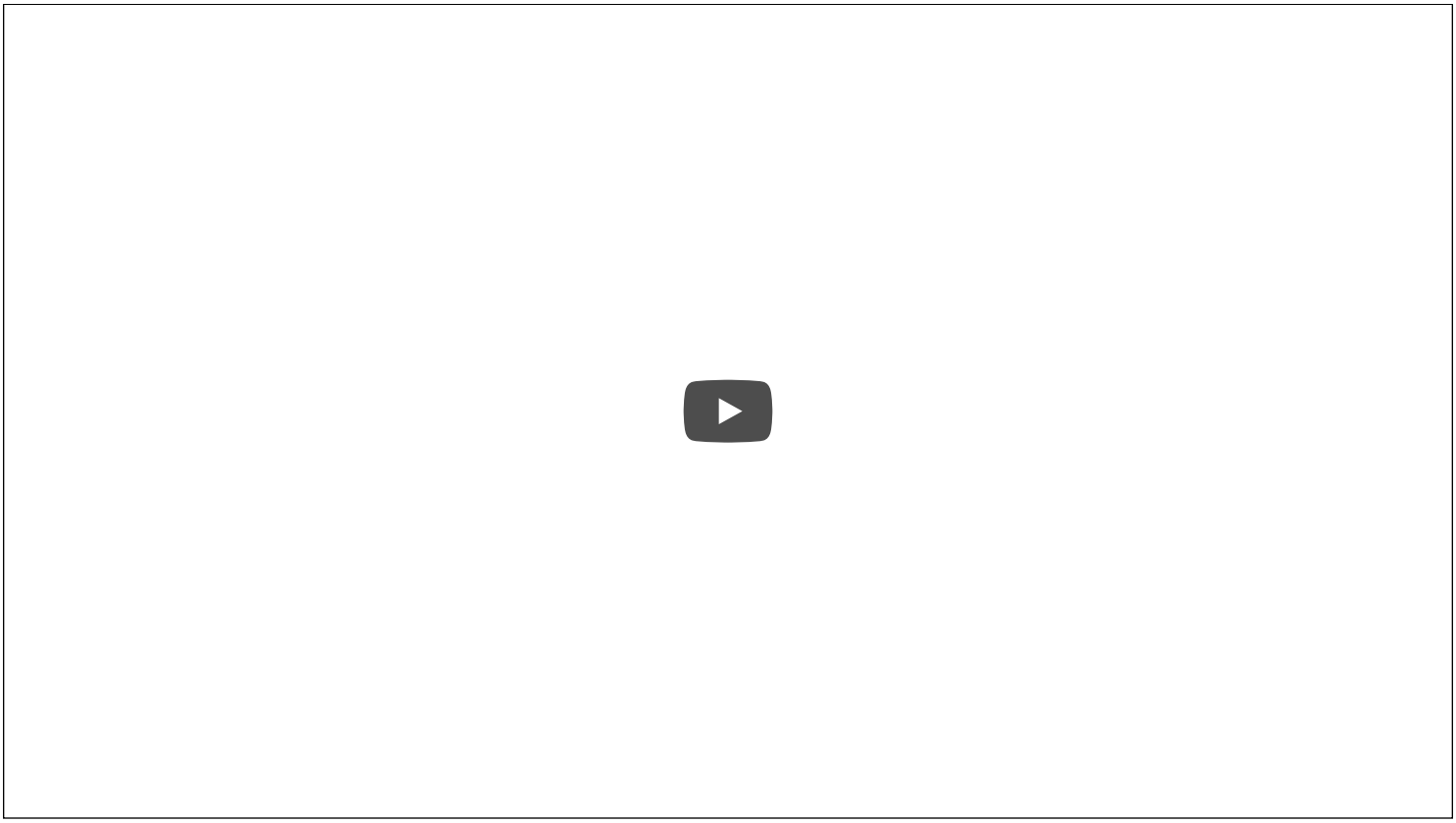

The Gold That Disappeared After World War II

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Gold is supposed to be the ultimate safe asset — but after the Second World War, thousands of tons of it simply vanished. Governments lost it, central banks denied it, and private vaults hid it. Some was stolen by German and Imperial Japan, some traded through neutral countries like Switzerland and Portugal, and some may have been used to secretly fund Cold War operations. Billions of dollars in gold, gone without a trace.

In this episode of The Financial Historian, we uncover how the world's most trusted form of money was seized, laundered, hidden, and absorbed into shadowy financial systems that shaped global power for decades. We'll explore the economic history behind the missing gold, the financial mistakes nations made in trusting "safe" storage, and the enduring lesson about wealth in times of crisis.

This isn't just about the past — the same tactics used to hide wartime gold are still used today. Understanding how money and power work in moments of global crisis is financial education you can't afford to ignore. Real wealth isn't just about what you own — it's about how well you can protect it when the system starts to break.

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